



DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
SENIORS & PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
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AUTHORIZED BY: _____

**SPD Assistant Director/
Deputy Assistant Director**

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

SPD-IM-02-027

Date: April 30, 2002

TO: SPD District and Unit Managers
Area Agency on Aging Directors

SUBJECT: Senior's Farmers Market Program

INFORMATION: For a second year the Department of Human Services and the Oregon Department of Agriculture has been awarded a grant from the United States Department of Agriculture which grants a one time allotment for the purchase of fresh Oregon grown fruits and vegetables. The amount awarded this year is \$80 per person. Funding restrictions has caused a \$20 reduction over last years entitlement. The coupons are redeemable at participating farmer's markets and roadside stands beginning June 5th through October 31st. The eligibility criteria has been modified and will include the following:

Seniors and people with disabilities who receive Medicaid and/or Food Stamps age 60 and older and; Countable income at or below 135% of the Federal poverty level. Those that meet the eligibility criteria will receive a post card the first week of May requesting their intent to participate by returning the card. Those that return the card will mailed 40 \$2 coupons to be used throughout the season to purchase Oregon grown fresh fruits and vegetables. The mailing will include a list of participating markets and stands throughout the state. A toll free number has been established for questions about the program, please direct inquiries to 1-866-299-3562. Based on funding the program will cover 10,500 recipients who will receive benefits on a "first come first serve" basis. As with last years program lost or stolen coupons will not be replaced.

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